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Pending Claims – April 22, 2003

Claim 1 - A gaming device, comprising, in combination:

a display,

a plurality of decision making means,

wagering means,

a processor including random means operatively coupled to said display, said decision making means and said wagering means to receive and transmit information therebetween,

said display including a plurality of symbols oriented in an RXC matrix,

said plurality of symbols changing as a function of said wagering means and said random means to provide a first outcome,

said processor including a comparison means between said first outcome and a payable, means to bestow an award if said first outcome is recognized on said payable and including processor-activated means to change the location of one or more symbols only if said first outcome is not recognized by said payable and only when said one or more symbols can move from their first outcome orientation to a different area in said RXC matrix according to a rule set to provide a second outcome, such that said second outcome is recognized by said comparison means to be on said payable is said processor-activated means to bestow an award then activated.

Claim 3 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein said symbols only move from said first outcome orientation to an area within the same row or column, or along the same diagonal, in said RXC matrix to produce said second outcome recognized by said comparison means to be on said payable.

Claim 6 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein said symbols that move from said first outcome orientation in said RXC matrix to produce said second outcome recognized by said comparison means to be on said payable are located in a subset of rows or columns of said RXC matrix.

Claim 7 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein said symbols that move from said first outcome orientation in said RXC matrix to produce said second outcome recognized by said comparison means to be on said payable are located in only one specific column of said RXC matrix.

Claim 8 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein z symbols move from said first outcome orientation to create said second outcome recognized by said comparison means to be on said payable where z is the number of symbols necessary for a winning outcome

Claim 9 - The gaming device of claim 8 wherein any subset of z symbols move from said first outcome orientation to create said second outcome recognized by said comparison means to be on said payable.

Claim 10 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein said symbols move from said first outcome orientation to produce said second outcome recognized by said

comparison means to be on said payable only when said second outcome is recognized by said comparison means to be the highest-ranking combination on said payable of possible combinations of said symbols of said first outcome orientation.

Claim 11 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein said symbols move from said first outcome orientation to produce said second outcome only when said second outcome is recognized by said comparison means to be the lowest-ranking combination on said payable of possible combinations of said symbols of said first outcome orientation.

Claim 12 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein said processor-activated means to change the location of one or more symbols if said first outcome is not recognized by said payable is active during all times of operation.

Claim 13 - The gaming device of claim 1 wherein said processor-activated means to change the location of one or more symbols if said first outcome is not recognized by said payable is not active during all times of operation.

Claim 15 - A method for wagering on a gaming device, including the steps of:

- making a wager to enable the gaming device,
- evoking chance means to trigger an initial outcome,
- displaying said initial outcome,
- comparing said initial outcome to a payable,
- awarding credits if the initial outcome is found on said payable,

determining whether an outcome found on said payable can be made by permuting said initial outcome only if said initial outcome is not on said payable,

manipulating said initial outcome according to a rule set to produce a winning outcome only when said initial outcome is not on said payable, and

awarding credits for the manipulated winning outcome found on said payable.

Claim 16 - An apparatus for wagering, comprising, in combination:

wagering means,

means for displaying a plurality of symbols in an RXC matrix with N paylines,

means for comparing displayed symbols to a payable,

means for incrementing an award due in the presence of a winning outcome, and

processor-activated means for changing the location of said displayed symbols to produce a winning outcome only if said displayed symbols are not found on said payable and only when said displayed symbols can be reoriented according to a rule set to an outcome recognized by said payable whereupon said means for incrementing an award is enabled.

Claim 17 - The device of claim 1 wherein said symbols are derived from a conventional deck of playing cards and said symbols include processor-activated

means to change suit if said first outcome is not recognized but changing suit will result in an award.

Claim 18 - The device of claim 1 wherein said symbols are derived from faces of dice.

Claim 19 - A gaming device, comprising in combination:

a display; and

a processor and random number generator operatively coupled and intercoupled with said display, said processor and random number generator having comparison means and means to bestow an award, wherein said processor and random number generator produce a first outcome on said display, said comparison means compare said first outcome to a payable, and said means to bestow an award are activated if said first outcome is found on said payable, and wherein reorientation means are activated by said processor to reorient said first outcome to a second outcome if and only if said first outcome is not found on said payable, and said second outcome is found on said payable.

Claim 20 - A method of gaming, the steps including:

enabling a gaming device;

generating a first outcome;

comparing said first outcome to a payable;

awarding credits if said first outcome is present on said payable;

reorienting said first outcome to produce a second outcome if and only if said first outcome is not present on said payable and if and only if said second outcome is present on said payable, wherein reorientation is processor-controlled; and

awarding credits.

Claim 21 - The method of claim 20 wherein said reorienting step includes selecting from a plurality of second outcomes such that said selected second outcome represents a maximum award when compared with alternative second outcomes.

Claim 22 - A method of gaming, the steps including:

enabling a gaming device;

generating a first outcome;

comparing said first outcome to a payable;

awarding credits if said first outcome is present on said payable;

manipulating said first outcome according to a rule set if and only if said first outcome is not present on said payable, and if and only if said second outcome is present on said payable, wherein manipulation is entirely processor-controlled; and

awarding credits.

Claim 23 - A gaming device, comprising, in combination:

a display;

a processor and random number generator operatively coupled and coupled with said display, said processor and random number generator having comparison means and means to bestow an award, wherein said processor and random number generator produce a first outcome comprising a plurality of displayed symbols on said display, said comparison means compare said first outcome to a payable, and said means to bestow an award are activated if said first outcome is found on said payable; and

reorientation means to reorient said plurality of displayed symbols from said first outcome to a second outcome if and only if said first outcome is not found on said payable and said second outcome is found on said payable, wherein said reorientation means are activated by said processor, and wherein said second outcome consists of said plurality of symbols comprising said first outcome.